A3275-2 4/5/82

trends

ASSOCIATION OF
AMERICAN RAILROADS
OFFICE OF INFORMATION AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS
1920 L STREET, N.W. · WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036 · 202/293-4196

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, April 1, 1982 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended March 27 totaled an estimated 16.8 billion ton-miles, 12.1 percent below the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 13 weeks of 1982 was an estimated 208.5 billion ton-miles, 11.9 percent below the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended March 27 totaled 393,755 cars, 13.1 percent below 1981, but 0.9 percent higher than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were down 16.1 percent in the East, 12.1 percent in the South, and 11.4 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1981, 19 of the 21 commodity groups were down. However, grain loadings were up 3,885 cars, or 16.9 percent. Twelve of the 21 groups increased from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended March 20 totaled 36,848 cars, up 7.7 percent from the corresponding week of 1981, and 62,030 trailers and/or containers, 0.8 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first twelve weeks of the year was 409,006 cars, 7.8 percent higher than last year, and 725,139 trailers and/or containers, up 5.6 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 3/27/82:

	Loadings in Week ended March 27, 1982		Change from Corresponding Week 1981			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	26,882	I	3,885	16.9	I	1,142	4.4
Other farm products	3,584	I	512	16.7	D	18	0.5
Metallic ores	19,873	D	7,652	27.8	D	415	2.0
Coal	122,966	D	4,862	3.8	I	2,121	1.8
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	9,431	D	3,137	25.0	D	277	2.9
Nonmetallic minerals	10,753	D	2,543	19.1	D	1,417	11.6
Grain mill products	12,584	D	2,693	17.6	D	287	2.2
Food and kindred products	14,355	D	2,200	13.3	I	301	2.1
Primary forest products	15,839	D	3,349	17.5	D	1,158	6.8
Lumber and wood products except furniture	6,375	D	3,497	35.4	I	310	5.1
Pulp, paper and allied products	17,809	D	2,774	13.5	I	565	3.3
Chemicals and allied products	24,260	D	6,686	21.6	I	746	3.2
Petroleum products	4,652	D	689	12.9	I	192	4.3
Stone, clay and glass products	10,532	D	4,742	31.0	I	503	5.0
Coke	5,296	D	978	15.6	I	215	4.2
Metals and products	11,733	D	6,202	34.6	I	652	5.9
Motor vehicles and equipment	15,249	D	4,418	22.5	D	558	3.5
Waste and scrap materials	8,789	D	4,379	33.3	D	505	5.4
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	9,506	D	1,304	12.1	I	361	3.9
All other carloads	43,093	D	1,434	3.2	I	1,009	2.4
LCL traffic	204	D	80	28.2	D	2	1.0
Total Cars Loaded	393,755	D	59,222	13.1	I	3,480	0.9
Corresponding week of 1981	452,977						

	1982	1981	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (13 weeks)	4,828,537	5,618,053	D 14.1
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
12 Weeks cumulative	191.6	217.4	D 11.9
Week ended March 27	16.8	19.2	D 12.1
13 Weeks cumulative	208.5	236.6	D 11.9

AARt-040182